

### **Brief Biography**

#### **JAMES W. VAN DAM**



Dr. Van Dam is serving as acting associate director of the USDOE Office of Science for the Fusion Energy Sciences program since August 2017. Prior to that, he was the research division director for the Fusion Energy Sciences program since September 2011.

During 1980-2011, he was a research scientist, associate director, and for nine years director of the Institute for Fusion Studies at The University of Texas in Austin.

During 2007-2011, he was also director of the U.S. Burning Plasma Organization and chief scientist for the U.S. ITER Project Office.

He is a Fellow of the American Physical Society (Division of Plasma Physics). He has been the organizer for numerous workshops and several international symposia, a visiting scientist/professor at several laboratories and universities, thesis advisor for graduate students, a member of various national committees, journal editor, and a consultant to industry. He has published over 100 scientific papers and two books.

After graduate study at University of California-Berkeley and the Institute of Plasma Physics (Japan), he completed his Ph.D. at UCLA and then was a postdoc at the Institute for Advanced Study (Princeton) before moving to the University of Texas.